

Albany-Dougherty Coalition to End Homelessness
Recommendations to Albany-Dougherty County:
10-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness

2012-2022



A report of recommendations and a plan of action for Albany-Dougherty to undertake over the next 10 years to reduce homelessness within the City of Albany and Dougherty County. The Plan is intended to be a living document, updated frequently to reflect progress and learning.

Submitted by

The Albany Dougherty Coalition to End Homelessness

Prepared by

Timothy Sweet-Holp

Research Assistant

John Hollis

Planning Committee

Chair:

Timothy Sweet Holp,
Albany State University

Members:

Lorraine Alexander,
United Way of Southwest Georgia

David Blackwell,
With Perfection, Incorporated

Keisha Massey,
Liberty House

Douglas McClure,
Captain, Corps Officer Salvation Army

Leslie Revill,
Faith Community Outreach Center

Art Shoemaker,
Love Thy Neighbor Inc.

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I. Executive Summary

Depending on which survey you read or cite the Albany-Dougherty Metropolitan Statistical Area ranks among the top 5 in the country in terms of poverty rate. **Poverty** is an important indicator to consider when examining homelessness as it is often but not always a precursor. The Albany Metropolitan Area has struggled with poverty for such a long time that we face high incidences of “**generational poverty**,” which is much more difficult to reduce as it results in a multitude of behaviors that can become habitual. **Educational outreach** efforts, increased **educational opportunities**, **incremental empowerment** and **opportunities to acquire and retain assets** have shown to have the greatest positive success rate at reducing generational poverty and in turn reducing homelessness.

Unemployment and a weak economy can exasperate the issue of homelessness. The City of Albany and Dougherty County are currently above the national average in terms of unemployment. Our local economy continues to shed manufacturing jobs which once accounted for a substantial amount of the workforce, often replacing them with lower paying service sector jobs. This can put **additional households at risk of becoming homeless, or “precariously housed.”**

Data indicates a **concerning rise in homelessness** as a result of poor economic conditions globally, nationally, regionally and locally. With diminishing resources and a greater need there has been a shift in practice from reactively providing for those who are homeless to proactively offering preventative and supportive housing with services to those who are at risk of becoming homeless.

The **multifaceted challenge** to reduce homelessness requires multiple strategies, the engagement of **diverse stakeholders** who each bring unique capabilities, resources and experience that enable us to make progress toward our collective end goal: **reducing homelessness**. This 10-Year Plan was produced by the Albany Dougherty Coalition to End Homelessness in conjunction with concerned residents, organizations and non-profits.

The plan outlines three types of **realistic, attainable goals** and identifies **strategies** that should be incrementally implemented for each goal through collaborative efforts of both governmental and non-governmental entities; as well as **performance measurement** metrics to monitor and evaluate whether progress toward the identified goals in the plan is being made over time.

A. Short-term Goals (one-to-three years)

- 1. Promote Awareness, Community Education and Advocacy**
- 2. Foster Interconnected Relationships among Assets and Stakeholders**

B. Mid-term Goals (three-to-five years)

- 1. Develop and Implement Homeless Prevention Plan with Supportive Services**
- 2. Develop and Implement Strategies for Special Populations**
- 3. Increase the Access and Use of Pathways and Overall Better Data Management**

C. Long-term Goals (six-to-ten years)

- 1. Increase Transitional and Permanent Housing Units for the Chronically Homeless**

II. Introduction

This 10-Year Plan to Reduce Homelessness is presented to the City of Albany and the County of Dougherty, Georgia by the Albany-Dougherty Coalition to End Homelessness (ADCTEH). This document represents the on-going effort by the Coalition to assist the City of Albany and Dougherty County in their efforts to address homelessness by providing information, making recommendations, and serving as a communication conduit to community homelessness stakeholders.

The plan herein comes from the Coalition, and represents the patchwork mosaic of thoughts, ideas, beliefs, and hopes of the community of stakeholders working together over the last three years. This document is a work in progress and is not intended to be viewed as static. Although some specific tasks are recommended, the Coalition is well aware of the changing dynamics – political, cultural, and economic - of the homelessness environment, and acknowledges that the objectives and action steps, perhaps even some of the goals, will change over the course of the next ten years.

III. History of the ADCTEH

Members of the original coalition (Task Force on Homelessness) were appointed by the City Commission in February 1997 and consisted of 28 members. In September 1998 the Coalition requested the City Commission to approve changing the name of the group from the Task Force on Homelessness to the Albany-Dougherty Coalition to End Homelessness. This action was approved, and in 1999 the Coalition made recommendations to the City Commission for appointments and the Commission accepted those recommendations. The Coalition is made up of organizations and persons who work with, or are otherwise involved and/or are interested in, the issues associated with homelessness and being at-risk of homelessness.

IV. Vision and Mission Statement

During the first planning event, forty (40) plus assorted stakeholders were asked to share their thoughts on a vision for the Coalition and its 10-Year Plan. The following Vision Statement came from that stakeholder input and was approved by the Coalition membership.

A. Vision Statement

“Every citizen in Albany should be afforded the opportunity and resources necessary to achieve a stable life. The future for all citizens of Albany-Dougherty should include a safe and secure home and environment, sufficient food and clothing, sufficient employment, educational opportunity for parents and children, resources for children, transportation, and adequate medical care. Our focus is to help citizens achieve long-term stability through better communication, coordinated services, improved evaluation, and greater accountability. The Albany-Dougherty Coalition to End Homelessness

Coalition and its members shall work to facilitate the reduction of social, economic, political, physical, and emotional barriers to adequate housing and stable lives.”

B. Mission Statement

The same process gave forth the following Mission Statement: **“To systematically reduce homelessness in the City of Albany and Dougherty County.”**

V. Core Values

In working toward the Vision and Mission, the Coalition likewise declared a set of Core Values that should guide stakeholders. They are:

- Maintaining Family Stability
- Promoting Self-Sufficiency
- Safety
- Respecting the Individual
- Gaining Self Worth and Confidence
- Believing in Success and Determination
- Treating the Whole Person
- Reinforcing Life and Job Skills
- Stressing the Importance of Faith and Church Involvement
- getting Support from the Entire Community

VI. Performance Measurement

Performance measurement collects and reports information regarding the performance over time. The intention is to examine processes in place and determine whether outcomes are in line with intended achievements. This enables better budgeting, control, and incremental improvement over time. The results although quantitative in nature can also motivate and draw attention to strategies that are effective in increasing optimal performance. Performance measures are identified for each goal throughout the plan and a summary table that enables tracking of progress for each goal can be found in Appendix A.

VII. About 10-Year Plans

A. Why Do a 10-Year Plan?

This plan has its roots in the past work of the Coalition. Over the last three years the Coalition has engaged the community of homeless providers of services to the homeless and interested citizens to hear their thoughts, concerns, and aspirations for the homeless and at-risk in our community.

The results of two community planning events, several round-table discussions, and countless meetings by the Coalition Planning Committee have contributed to this 10-Year Plan. In the broadest of strokes, our plan addresses the need for an increase in emergency shelter beds, an increase in transitional shelter units, more affordable permanent shelter units, and greater support services for those homeless and at- risk of homelessness. These broad strokes transcend many layers of systems, and cut across all demographic classifications.

The central objective of a long range plan of this nature is to provide an opportunity for public feedback and obtain collective buy-in, thereby ensuring that all stakeholders and groups are familiar the goals and strategies and will commit to working together, being accountable for roles and resources we can each are being called upon.

B. Essentials for any 10 Year Plan

The National Alliance to End Homelessness lists 10 essentials to ending homelessness that must be included in each community's plan, they are as follows:

1. **Plan:** Strategies focused on ending homelessness involving a wide range of players
2. **Data:** Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
3. **Emergency Prevention:** Rent/Mortgage/Utility Assistance; Case Management; Landlord/Lender Intervention; Other strategies to prevent eviction and homelessness
4. **Systems Preventions:** Mainstream programs Department of Family & Children's Services (DFACS), mental health, substance abuse, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), child welfare, etc.); Placement in stable housing for all people being released from public institutions.
5. **Outreach:** Reduce barriers and encourage homeless people to enter housing
6. **Shorten Homelessness:** Outcome measures in shelters and transitional housing systems
7. **Rapid Re-Housing:** skilled housing search and placement services
8. **Services:** Rapid access to funded services, particularly mainstream
9. **Permanent Housing:** Permanent supportive housing (chronically homeless); Address permanent housing need (Extremely low-income)
10. **Income:** When necessary to obtain housing; Access/Increase employment and/or benefits, primarily mainstream.

This plan addresses each of these critical areas by:

- Engaging a wide range of stakeholders, service providers and interested parties.
- Proposing greater utilization and analysis of HMIS and other collected data
- Setting several mid-term goals that emphasize emergency prevention
- Examining systems that can lead to increased prevention
- Emphasizing innovative outreach, marketing and engagement as critical components
- Leading by example by adopting performance based outcome measures
- Highlighting the need for skilled housing search and placement services
- Evaluation of access to critical services, ensuring they are met while reducing duplication
- Addressing the need for supportive housing as a long term goal
- Considering the need to increase mainstream access to employment and benefits

VIII. 2012-2022 10-Year Plan

A. Short-Term Goals (one to three years)

1. Promote Awareness, Community Education and Advocacy

Main Issues:

Residents and organizations within the City of Albany and Dougherty County have **varying degrees of information and misinformation**, vast disparities in perceptions and unfounded bases for conclusions. Additionally, there is **generally a negative stigma associated with homelessness** and efforts should be made to promote widespread awareness and **advocacy** that **homelessness affects and costs our community as a whole**.

Key Objectives:

- Promote educationally-backed awareness throughout the community (especially among community leaders) on the multitude of contributing causes of homelessness, related issues, as well as strategies and barriers to reducing homelessness in our community.
- Create a network of advocates, encouraging others to advocate for the homeless
- Raise funds and efficiently leverage resources (both monetary capital and human capital) to mitigate this issue.



Proposed Strategies:

1. **ADCTEH should organize around a structure that enables them to raise funds and not merely serve in an advisory role.** – This would allow creative fundraising opportunities, such as dinners, events and collection of annual membership dues from organizations and individuals
2. **Public should be engaged through public service announcements, creative marketing channels** (Brochures, Weekly or Monthly E-Newsletters, Website, YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, etc...) – Information should come to those interested; they shouldn't have to actively look for it, resources should also be located in one place
3. **Monthly meetings should involve actions and accountability, not just talk, members should be engaged to ensure they are getting what they would like from their participation in the Coalition** – meetings should document milestones, be a time for planning and communicating upcoming events. They should be video recorded and placed online where others (who desire to be involved but whose schedules do not permit meeting attendance) can remain connected and most importantly informed
4. **Identify and foster a relationship with all homeless service agencies and faith based institutions by explaining the mission and vision of the Coalition and how synergies can be realized by working together**

5. **Work with Albany Area Chamber of Commerce’s Strive2Thrive Initiative** and host “Rise and Shine Breakfast”
6. **Build on past successes**, such as the Homeless Resource Fair, Homeless Summit, and the Place 4 Hope day resource center, additional fairs should explain the Coalition’s mission and engage volunteers
7. **Conduct volunteer training** on “How to Serve Homeless People”
8. **Create and name an elite group**, i.e. (Partners at the Bridge)
9. **Create “Homeless Resources Guide”** that organizations can edit and update online, perhaps through Wikipedia or another open source site. This task has been completed several times over the years, however unfortunately as soon as it is completed it is often out of date.

Performance Measurement: (Track the Following Information Monthly)

- Amount of funds raised month over month and year to date
- Number of subscribers to monthly E-newsletter, subscribers on YouTube, friends on Facebook and followers on Twitter
- Number of Members in Attendance at Meeting
- Number of Tasks Completed at Each Meeting
- Number of Organizations Connected to ADCTEH (especially Faith-Based Institutions)
- Number of Volunteers Trained as Advocates

2. Foster Interconnected Relationships among Assets and Stakeholders

Main Issues:

Fragmented relationships exist among all sectors of the community. Human service provider agencies, education systems, businesses and industries, and faith-based community organizations mostly work in isolated “silos.” As some have put it, “**we care too much, without a cohesive, shared vision.**” This results in duplication of services and staffs targeting certain issues while unmet needs abound in other areas. Many organizations appear to have an aversion to collaborating because of an organizational culture that does not facilitate it or may be mistrusting of partnerships as a result of historically based perceptions within the community. With this and any other issues and concerns identified, **small incremental steps should be undertaken to build momentum toward larger initiatives.**

Key Objectives:

- Identify missing or needed agencies within the community as well as existing assets, duplication of services and competitive advantages
- Continuously improve the implementation and delivery of human services, with effectiveness and efficiency by evaluating Pathways Data to formulate conclusions as to what services are needed where (this coincides with Mid-Term Goal B3)
- Foster a greater understanding by examining organizational barriers to collaboration

Proposed Strategies:

- **Propose synergies to organizations** who could realize the greatest opportunity resource optimization by working together
- **Meet and coordinate with other providers** throughout the region, and develop priorities and strategies for improvements throughout the Continuum and the region so that the maximum number of persons are served in the most efficient and effective manner

- **Highlight duplication of services** and how those resources could be leveraged to unmet priority needs within the community.
- **Encourage organizations to publicize their mission, vision, short and/or long range plans and objectives** (even if it is vague at first, getting this information out will help others in the community better understand the organization and where potential shared goals exist)

Performance Measurement: (Track the Following Information Monthly)

- Number of Resources Identified Within the Community
- Number of Meetings with External Organizations
- Number of Organizations providing additional public information

B. Mid-Term Goals (three to five years)

1. Develop and Implement Homeless Prevention Plan with Supportive Services

Main Issues: Limited preventative efforts exist within the region, although an emphasis on providing shelter to those who are currently homeless is important, the costs of providing shelter on a per person basis is much higher than support and preventative services. It is also important to be offering the right services with the greatest need.

Key Objectives:

- Prevent Evictions and Enhance Other Prevention Efforts
- Develop Homeless Prevention Plans
- Facilitate the Use of Effective Discharge Planning Models

Proposed Strategies:

- **Work with individual landlords, real estate management companies, and mortgage lenders** to create **alternative scenarios to eviction.**
- **Develop a marketing plan** to expand the number of persons informed of **Albany’s eviction prevention program.** Ensure that information about the prevention program is widely disseminated so that tenants are informed long before receiving an eviction notice.
- **Conduct workshops and/or provide individual counseling** for consumers to increase understanding of tenant responsibilities, and distribute materials.
- **Form a task force to review/assess current policies and procedures for preventing evictions,** study “best practices,” and recommend improvements in current system.
- **Identify funding to hire a housing specialist to act as a broker between homeless persons and those being released/discharged from institutions and private landlords.** The housing specialist, a “one-stop- shop housing counselor,” would also develop and maintain a centralized housing network.
- **Review policies/procedures** (e.g., program rules/admittance criteria for residential properties, residential fee setting, etc.) to promote residential housing stability.
- **Strengthen the infrastructure of social institutions that provide custodial care,** to reduce the likelihood of those being discharged from becoming homeless upon release.

Performance Measurement: (Track the Following Information Monthly)

- Number of landlords, management companies and lenders contacted
- Percent of Marketing Plan Developed

- Number of Workshops/Counseling Sessions Held

2. Develop and Implement Strategies for Special Populations

Main Issues: Homelessness affects people from all walks of life, however there are some groups that are particularly vulnerable and as a result may have shared risk factors or potential barriers. We should plan for and implement strategies for these specific populations.

Key Objectives:

- Increase efforts to reduce homeless or at-risk Veterans, Non-English Speaking, Youth, Women with Children, and Women.

Proposed Strategies:

- a. Veterans
 - i. Ensure Veterans Receive Entitlements
 - ii. Organize a “Stand-Down” event
 - iii. Developing a relationship
- b. Women and Children
 - i. Establish relationship with resource providers
 - ii. Kids Expo
 - iii. Identify a Corporate Sponsor (in November for National Homeless Month)
- c. Non-English Speakers
 - i. Build relationships with churches, Employers (i.e., Contractors), Haven for Hope, Morningside Methodist Church
 - ii. Book Giveaway (Spanish)
- d. Identify Needs
 - i. Build relationship with agencies
 - ii. Find resources
- e. Identify Agencies
 - i. Veteran Administration
 - ii. Samaritan Clinic
 - iii. Harley-Davidson
 - iv. Group/Hotels and Motels
 - v. Albany Technical College
 - vi. Department of Labor
 - vii. American Legion
 - viii. Byne Memorial

Performance Measurement: (Track the Following Information Monthly)

- Percent progress toward completing each special population plan
- Number of organizations identified for each special population plan
- Grants or funding resources identified, applied for or obtained for each special population

3. Increase the Access and Use of Pathways and Overall Better Data Management

Main Issues: Many service providers in our area do not utilize the Pathways system, (an important tracking tool which can provide data that can provide effective services). Not only

would 100% utilization of Pathways help provide more effective services but better overall data including thorough homeless counts, standardized forms, and centralized communication of non-sensitive data facilitated by the Coalition would drive data-based decision-making.

Key Objectives:

- Encourage all agencies that provide services to the homeless and at-risk to participate in the Pathways Management System.
- More efficient data management, including but not limited to network of members, organizations, information provided by organizations, current practices from other cities.

Proposed Strategies:

- For those agencies that cannot afford the system, the Coalition needs to provide access to the system, through a process to be determined.

Performance Measurement: (Track the Following Information Monthly)

- Percent of Service Providers Utilizing Pathways in Albany-Dougherty
- Number of New Data Sources Shared

C. Long-Term Goals (six or more years)

1. Increase Transitional and Permanent Housing Units for the Chronically Homeless

Main Issues: The Albany-Dougherty Area has limited transitional and permanent housing units for those who are chronically homeless. Providing such facilities are costly, however the annual costs per person are less than the costs of an un-housed chronically homeless person on the streets. It is important to construct or launch new transitional and permanent Housing Programs in tandem with preventative efforts.

Key Objectives:

- Partner with community stakeholders to increase the number of transitional housing units.
- Work towards developing a stable and safe environment for chronically homeless individuals.

Proposed Strategies

- Identify resources (e.g., VA, HHS, HUD, State, private) and community partners for the planning and development of additional permanent and permanent supportive housing units, acquisition of additional Section 8 vouchers, and other permanent housing solutions for the homeless population.
- Establish linkages with faith-based non-profits to improve access to federal funding opportunities, as well as to increase the number of volunteers serving the homeless.
- Communicate with neighbors, engage community support through meetings and discussions and initiate recruitment/hiring of Project Director.
- Develop program, including steps for managing crises and non-intrusive, non-punitive, “low-demand” rules which promote safety, cleanliness, privacy. Hire Safe Haven staff.

Performance Measurement: (Track the Following Information Monthly)

- Note any positive progress (non quantifiable due to complexity)

Appendix A: Performance Measurement **Summary Table**

Performance Measurement Summary Table												
Measure	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13	May-13	Jun-13
	Short Term Goal #1 (1-3 Years): Promote Awareness, Community Education and Advocacy											
Amount of Funds Raised (MOM)												
Amount of Funds Raised (YTD)												
Number of Subscribers to Monthly E-Newsletter												
Number of Subscribers on YouTube Channel												
Number of Friends on Facebook												
Number of Followers on Twitter												
Number of Members in Attendance at Monthly Meeting												
Number of Tasks Completed at Monthly Meeting												
Number of Organizations Connected to ADCTEH												
Number of Volunteers Trained as Advocates												
Short Term Goal #2 (1-3 Years): Promote Awareness, Community Education and Advocacy												
Number of Resources Identified within the Community												
Number of Meetings with External Organizations												
Number of Organizations providing additional public info.												
Mid Term Goal #1 (3-5 Years): Develop and Implement Homeless Prevention Plan with Supportive Services												
Number of Landlords, Mgmt. Cos., Lenders Contacted												
Percent of Marketing Plan Developed												
Number of Workshops/Counseling Sessions Held												
Mid Term Goal #2 (3-5 Years): Develop and Implement Strategies for Special Populations												
Percent Progress toward Completing each Special Population Plan												
Number of Organizations Identified for each Special Population Plan												
Grants or Funding Resources Identified, Applied for or Obtained for each Special Population												
Mid Term Goal #3 (3-5 Years): Increase the Access and Use of Pathways and Overall Better Data Management												
Percent of Service Providers Utilizing Pathways in Albany-Dougherty												
Number of New Data Sources Shared												
Long Term Goal #1 (6-10 Years): Increase Transitional and Permanent Housing Units for the Chronically Homeless												
Any Positive Progress (Y/N)												

Appendix B: Glossary of Terms

Throughout this document, terms have been used that may be unfamiliar to those who are not part of the existing housing and service delivery system for homeless individuals and families. Even among those who work within this system, terms have varying meanings. The following definitions are used for the purposes of clarifying the meaning of the terms used in the plan.

Affordable Housing – Housing for which the occupant is paying no more than 30 percent of his or her income for gross housing costs, including utilities

At-Risk of Homelessness- Potential households considered at-risk of homelessness are households paying more than 50% of their income for rent; households doubling up with others or “couch surfing” (temporarily staying with friends); and living in single room occupancy hotels represent a conservative definition of those at risk of homelessness.

Albany-Dougherty Commission to End Homelessness (ADCTEH) - The Commission is a diverse, broad based group assembled to create a 10-year plan to end homelessness in Albany-Dougherty County, Georgia. The Commission includes individuals who are homeless, homeless service providers, and representatives from the business community, neighborhood organizations and public agencies.

Area Median Income (AMI)- Used to determine the eligibility of applicants for both federally and locally funded programs. It sets the maximum limit that a household can earn to be eligible for programs. Income limits are calculated for specific geographic areas based on HUD estimates of median family income with adjustments for family size.

Case Management- The process by which all matters of a homeless individual’s needs are assessed and managed by a social worker or case manager. Case managers coordinate with designated management to ensure continuity of services and accessibility to overcome rigidity, fragmented services, and the misutilization of facilities and resources. It also attempts to match the appropriate intensity of services with the individual’s needs over time.

Chronic Homelessness – A chronically homeless person is an unaccompanied disabled individual who has been continuously homeless for over one year or has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.

CDBG- The Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) was authorized by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974. CDBG provides eligible metropolitan cities, and urban counties (called “entitlement communities”), and states with annual direct grants to revitalize neighborhoods, expand affordable housing and economic opportunities, and/or improve community facilities and services, principally to benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

Continuum of Care (CoC)- A comprehensive and coordinated housing and service delivery system.

This approach helps communities plan for and provide a balance of emergency, transitional and permanent housing and service resources to address the needs of homeless persons so they can make the critical transition from the streets to jobs and independent living. The Continuum of Care stresses permanent solutions to homelessness through comprehensive and collaborative community planning.

Discharge Planning- The process of coordinating and evaluating an individual's needs in order to arrange for appropriate care following discharge from a hospital or other institutional care setting.

Dually Diagnosed- Dual diagnosis refers to the co-occurrence of mental health disorders and substance abuse disorders (alcohol and/or drug dependence or abuse)

Emergency Shelter- Free temporary shelter provided as an alternative to residing in a place not meant for human habitation and typically is limited to 90 days.

Episodic Homelessness- Episodic homelessness affects approximately 10 percent of homeless persons and applies to a person who experiences periodic incidents of homelessness, generally for short periods of time.

Extremely Low-Income Households- Households who have incomes that are 30% or less than the median household income.

Fair Market Rent (FMR)- Schedules published in the Federal Register establishing maximum eligible rent levels allowed under the Section 8 rental assistance and other HUD housing financing programs by geographic area.

Family- Defined as any of the following: minor parents with child(ren); one or more adults with legal custody of minor child(ren); a couple in which one person is pregnant; grandparents or others who are legal guardians with child (ren) present; multi-generational families with grandparents, parents (adult/child) and minor child(ren).

Federal Interagency Council on Homelessness- Congress established the Interagency Council on Homelessness in 1987 with the passage of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. The Council is responsible for providing Federal leadership for activities to assist homeless families and individuals.

Federal Poverty Level (FPL)- The Federal Government's working definition of poverty that is used as the reference point for the income standard for eligibility for many federal benefits programs. Adjusted annually for inflation and published by the Department of Health and Human Services in the form of Poverty Guidelines, the FPL in calendar year 2011 is \$10,890 for an individual, \$14,710 for a family of two, \$18,530 for a family of three and \$22,350 for a family of four.

HOME- HUD's HOME program provides block grant funds to local governments and states for new construction, rehabilitation, acquisition of affordable housing, assistance to homebuyers,

transitional housing and tenant-based relocation assistance (TBRA)

Homeless- According to the Stewart B. McKinney Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11301, et seq. (1994), a person is considered homeless who “lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time residence and... has a primary night time residency that is: (A) a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living accommodations... (B) an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized, or (C) a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.” 42 U.S.C. § 11302(a) The term “homeless individual” does not include any imprisoned or otherwise detained pursuant to an Act of Congress or state law.” 42 U.S.C. § 11302(c)

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)- Refers to Pathways Case Management that allows agencies to track service usage over time. It provides policymakers with a better understanding of patterns of service use and measure the effectiveness of homeless programs.

Homeless Veterans- An eligible Veteran is defined as one who: (1) served on active duty in the US Armed forces for more than 160 days and was discharged with other than a dishonorable discharge; (2) was discharged or released from active duty because of service connected disability; or (3) served on active duty during a period of war, or in a campaign or expedition to which a campaign badge is authorized.

Homeless Youth- Unaccompanied person, age 12 to 24. Youth may have run away or were forced out of their home and are not in the company of a parent or guardian, and who may or may not be legally emancipated.

Housing Choice Voucher- The current name for the Section 8 Housing Program, which still tends to be referred to as the Section 8 Program (Please see “Section 8 Program below”)

Housing Affordability- Housing affordability means annual housing costs do not exceed 30% of gross annual household income.

“Housing First” Model- A model that is focused on securing permanent housing, coupled with intensive supportive and treatment services, as quickly as possible for individuals and families after they have become homeless. In contrast, the more traditional housing model requires homeless persons to successfully complete different “stages” of housing (such as emergency housing and transitional housing) in order to demonstrate housing “readiness”. In the traditional housing model, completion of each housing stage requires physical movement to new housing, causing disruption with each move.

Housing Wage- The amount a person working full-time has to earn

“Low-Demand” Housing- Housing that allows program participants who are in need of supportive and treatment services to determine the type and intensity of services that they receive, rather than having to comply with pre-existing service and treatment requirements. Studies indicate that most

program participants eventually do agree to accept supportive and treatment services when allowed to access them according to their own timetable.

Low-Income Households- Households who have incomes that are between 30% and 50% of the median household income.

Medicaid- Medicaid is a program that pays for medical assistance for certain individuals and families with low incomes and resources. This program became law in 1965 and is jointly funded by the Federal and State governments to assist States in providing medical long-term care assistance to people who meet certain eligibility criteria. Medicaid is the largest source of funding for medical and health-related services for people with limited income.

Mentally Ill Individual- an individual substantially limited in one or more major life activities by mental illness based on confirmed clinical diagnosis, or initially by referral or staff assessment and later confirmed by clinical diagnosis.

Moderate-Income Households- Households who have incomes that are between 50% and 80% of the median household income.

People living in Public Places- People living in places not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings

Permanent Housing – Housing that is not time-limited and is intended to be a home for as long as a person chooses to live there and continues to be eligible if the unit is subsidized. One type of permanent housing is *permanent supportive housing*, which is permanent housing accompanied by ongoing supportive and treatment services. Many persons with disabilities require permanent supportive housing in order to remain stably housed.

Permanent Supportive Housing- Housing that is not time-limited and is linked to support services such as mental health, case management, employment assistance and other services to enable residents to maintain self-sufficiency.

Point-in-Time-Survey- As part of the Georgia Housing Status Count (Georgia Homeless Count) the Albany-Dougherty Coalition to End Homelessness partnered with the Southwest Georgia Regional Commission and the Department of Community and Economic Development

Poverty- The set minimum amount of income that a family needs for food, clothing, transportation, shelter and other necessities. In the U.S., this level is determined by the Department of Health and Human Services. Federal Poverty Level varies according to family size. The number is adjusted for inflation and reported annually in the form of poverty guidelines.

President’s Interagency Council on Homelessness- Congress established the Interagency Council on Homelessness in 1987 with the passage of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. The Council is responsible for providing Federal leadership for activities to assist homeless families and

individuals.

Public Housing- Housing, usually operated by public housing authorities, established to provide decent and safe rental units for eligible low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Public housing comes in all sizes and types, from scattered single-family houses to high-rise apartments for elderly families.

Recidivism- Return or relapse to a type of behavior, such as substance abuse.

Safe Haven- A facility that provides shelter and services to chronically homeless and chronically mental ill individuals that cannot comply with strict rules of traditional shelters.

Single Room Occupancy (SRO)- Housing units that are an affordable housing option for very low income and homeless individuals and are typically single room units with a bed, small refrigerator and a microwave.

Section 8 Program- A federal housing subsidy program that is administered locally by housing authorities. The subsidy program is both tenant and project-based. The Section 8 voucher program provides assistance in order for the voucher recipient to pay no more than 30 % of their gross monthly income on rent in a unit that complies with the rent guidelines. Housing authorities may spend a portion of their Section 8 certificate program funds to specific housing projects and thus subsidizing the unit. Also known as: Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)

Self-Sufficiency Standard- A measure of income adequacy that calculates how much money working adults need to meet their family's basic needs without subsidies. Unlike the federal poverty line, this approach is tailored to each family, varying with size and composition, as well as being geographically specific including work expenses.

Service Enriched Housing- Rental housing in the community at-large, in, which "services coordination", is available, to help all residents attain improved social and/or economic well-being.

Social Enterprise- Any earned-income business or strategy undertaken by a nonprofit to generate revenue in support of its charitable mission. "Earned income" consists of payments received in direct exchange for a product, service or privilege. Social enterprises commonly serve as a place of employment for consumers receiving supportive services from the not-for-profit agency.

Social Security Disability Insurance- A federally-funded wage-replacement program, administered by the Social Security Administration, for those who have a disability meeting Social Security rules and who have paid FICA taxes. SSDI is financed with Social Security taxes paid by workers, employers, and self-employed persons. SSDI benefits are payable to disabled workers, widows, widowers, and children or adults disabled since childhood who are otherwise eligible.

Supplemental Security Income- A Federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues and designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people, who have little or no income. The program provides cash to meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter.

Street Outreach- Services delivered directly to homeless individuals residing in places not meant for human habitation in order to connect the individuals to existing service providers.

Substance Abuse Individual – An individual who has acknowledged addiction problems related to alcohol and drug use and who seek services or housing to support their sobriety.

Supportive Housing- Housing that is coupled with supportive services in order to assist individuals and families in maintaining financial and personal stability and self-sufficiency to prevent homelessness.

Supportive Services- Services provided directly to homeless individuals and/or families intended to assist homeless individuals and/or families in attaining or maintaining residential, financial and personal stability and self-sufficiency.

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)- please see “Section 8 Program” above

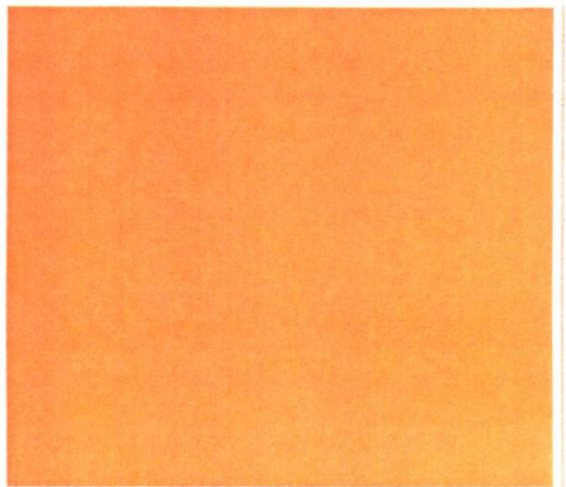
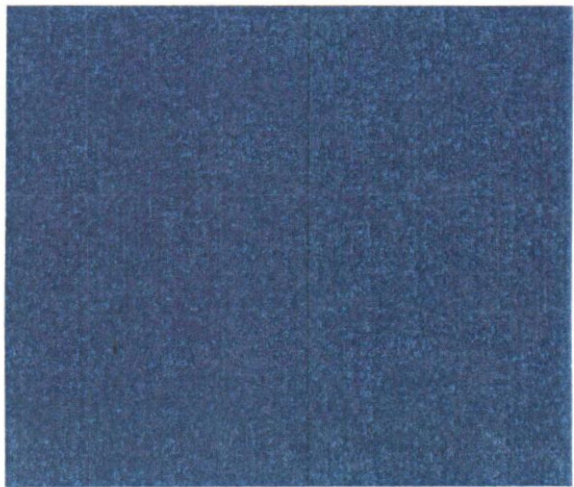
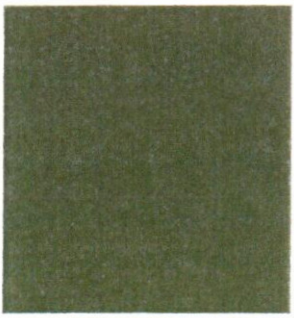
Transitional Housing- Transitional housing is designed to provide housing and appropriate supportive services to homeless persons and families and has the purpose of facilitating the movement of individuals and families to independent living within a time period that is set by the project owner before occupancy.

Appendix C: Dougherty County **Homeless Count Results 2011**



*Dougherty
County*

HOMELESS COUNT Results 2011



Dougherty County

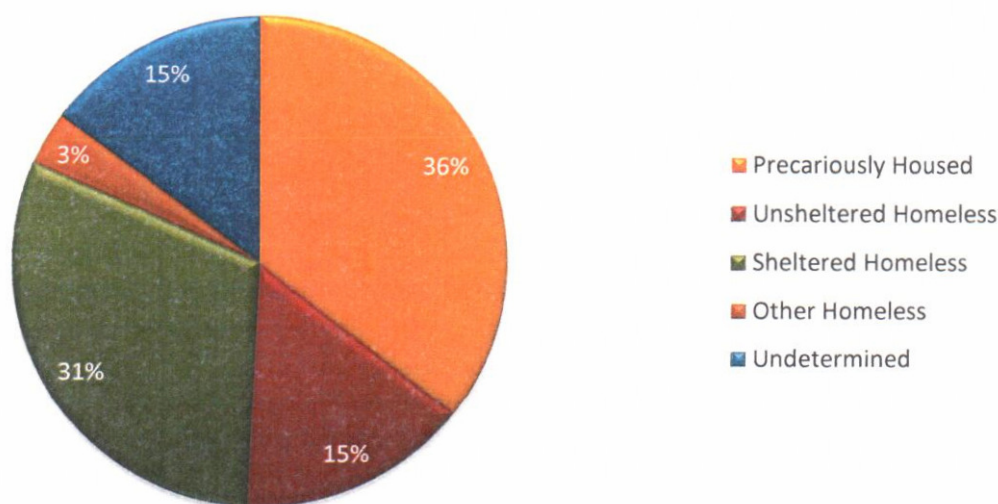
2011 Homeless Count Results

Total unduplicated surveys: **435**

Total number of persons covered (unduplicated survey respondents and accompanying family members): **699**

Housing Status												
	Precariously Housed		Unsheltered Homeless		Sheltered Homeless		Other Homeless		Housed		Undetermined	
	Region	Dougherty	Region	Dougherty	Region	Dougherty	Region	Dougherty	Region	Dougherty	Region	Dougherty
Respondents	225	63	108	30	135	59	42	7	1108	246	178	30
Accompanying children	133	18	22	0	51	18	5	2	904	136	116	6
Accompanying adults	74	10	16	9	9	2	8	0	450	61	61	2
Total	432	91	146	39	195	79	55	9	2462	443	355	38

Housing Status



DEFINITIONS USED FOR THE 2011 COUNT

Precariously Housed Persons

People living a house or apartment (either their own, a friend's, or a family member's) but who face the loss of their housing within two weeks or who live in substandard/dilapidated housing

People living in a hotel or motel who (a) face the loss of their housing within two weeks and (b) are not having their stay paid for by an agency, church, or other service provider

Unsheltered Homeless Persons

People who reside in a place not originally constructed as housing or meant for human habitation – such as

cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, and encampments

Sheltered Homeless Persons

People whose hotel stay is being paid for by an agency, church, or other service provider

People who reside in an emergency shelter or in transitional/supportive housing for homeless persons

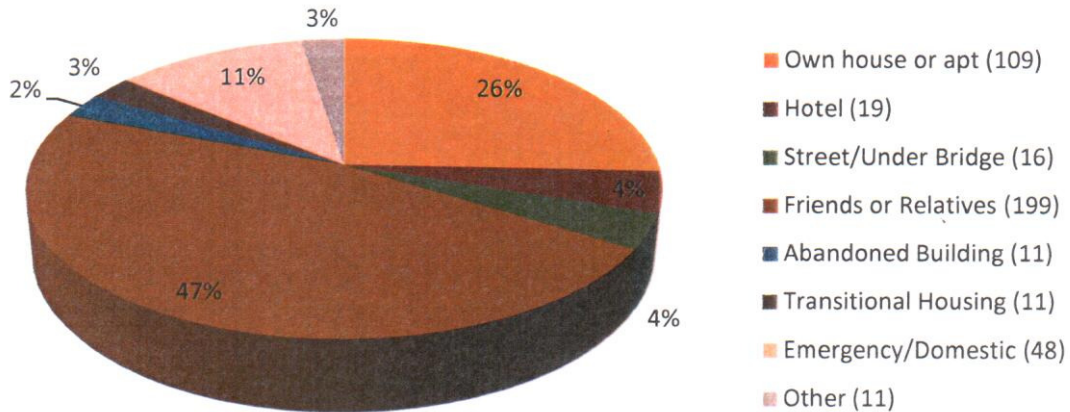
Other Homeless Persons

People who were in jail, a detox facility, or in the hospital (medical or psychiatric) on the point-in-time count night (January 23, 2011), but who would have otherwise been homeless

SURVEY RESULTS

On January 23, 2011, most Dougherty County survey respondents were **staying with Friends or Relatives** (see graph)
 43.9% of those staying at their own, a friends or a relative's house, DID NOT feel this was their permanent residence

In what type of place did you spend the night of Sunday, January 23, 2011?

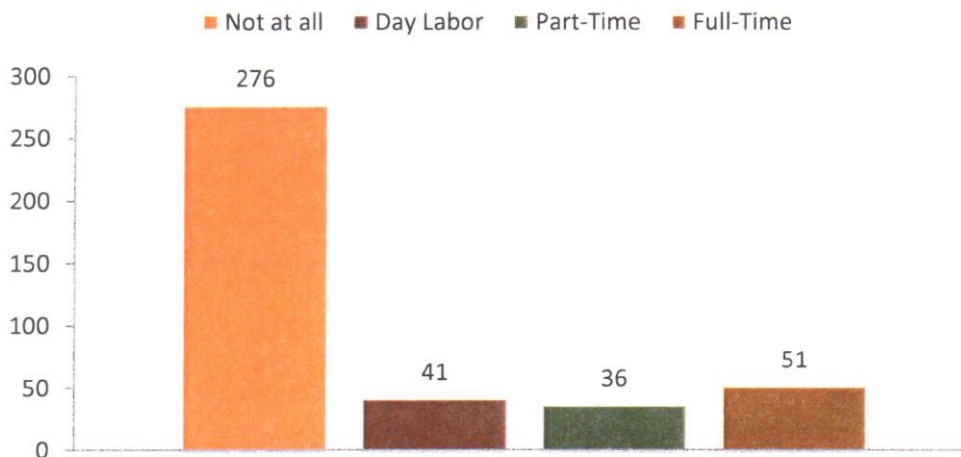


Of respondents with severe housing difficulties (159 total):

- 43.2 was the average age
- 13.2% were White, 82.4% were African-American, and 3.1% were another race
 - 1.9% were of Hispanic origin
- 37.1% were women
- 14.5% were veterans
 - 17.4% of these people indicated they currently receive veterans benefits
- 24.5% said they experienced severe mental illness and/or chronic substance use at some point in their life
 - 5.1% of these people indicated they currently receive mental health or addiction services
- 11.9% said they were kicked out of the home before age 18
- 17% said that family violence played a role in their current housing difficulties
- 78.6% of households were composed of one unaccompanied individual

Respondents had high rates of unemployment (see graph)

Work for Pay in Past 30 Days





January 2011 Georgia Housing Status Survey

All this week, agency staff and volunteers around Georgia are asking people about their housing situations and various factors that affect people's ability to get housing. Your answers will be kept in the strictest confidence and will be grouped with all of the surveys collected in the state this week. Your name will not be recorded on the survey. It will only take about 10 minutes to complete. Your participation... yes or no... will not affect your services in any way. If you have questions about the survey, please contact: Lindsey Stillman, Dept. of Community Affairs - 404-327-6813

Survey Location: _____

*Please use black or blue ink
to complete this form*

25
Like This

25
Not Like This

Like This

Not Like This

1. What are your initials?

2. What is your date of birth? / /

3. In what type of place did you spend the night of Sunday, January 23rd?

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> My own house or apartment | <input type="radio"/> With friends or relatives in housing | <input type="radio"/> Transitional housing |
| <input type="radio"/> Hotel/Motel | <input type="radio"/> Abandoned building | <input type="radio"/> Emergency or domestic violence shelter |
| <input type="radio"/> On the street, under a bridge, etc. | <input type="radio"/> In a car or other vehicle | <input type="radio"/> Group home or Personal Care Home |
| <input type="radio"/> Prison/jail | <input type="radio"/> Medical/Psychiatric hospital or facility | <input type="radio"/> Detox or Treatment facility |
| <input type="radio"/> Camping, other than recreational | <input type="radio"/> Farm structure | <input type="radio"/> Permanent Supportive Housing |

Other (describe) _____

4. If, you stayed in a hotel or motel on the night of Sunday, January 23rd, answer A and B below.

A. Do you expect to be able to stay there for at least the next 2 weeks?
 Yes No Don't Know

B. Is your hotel/motel stay being paid for by an agency, church or other service provider?
 Yes No Don't Know

5. If, you stayed in a house or apartment, or with friends or relatives in their house or apartment on the night of Sunday, January 23rd, answer A, B, C, and D below.

A. Is that your permanent place to stay?
 Yes No Don't Know

C. Do you expect to be able to stay there for at least the next 2 weeks?
 Yes No Don't Know

B. Is the house or apartment in safe and livable condition?
 Yes No Don't know

D. Do you currently receive any type of rental subsidy or rental assistance from an agency? Yes No Don't Know

if yes, is this rental subsidy temporary or permanent?
 Permanent Temporary Don't know

6. In what city/county did you spend the night of Sunday, January 23, 2011? _____

7. Do you consider yourself homeless at this time? Yes Go To 7a, b, c No Don't Know Skip to back page

A. In what county/city did you first become homeless?

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Current city/county | <input type="radio"/> Elsewhere in Georgia | <input type="radio"/> Elsewhere in the U.S. | <input type="radio"/> Don't know |
| <input type="radio"/> Neighboring city/county | <input type="radio"/> Neighboring state | <input type="radio"/> Outside the U.S. | |

B. How long have you been homeless?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> less than 30 days | <input type="radio"/> 6 months to one year |
| <input type="radio"/> 30-90 days | <input type="radio"/> More than 1 year |
| <input type="radio"/> 3 to 6 months | |

C. Including this time, how many times have you been homeless in the past three (3) years?

8. Did you have other household members staying with you on January 23, 2011?

Yes No **please go to question #9**

For each family member (not including yourself) who was with you the night of January 23rd, please tell us his/her age, gender, and relationship to you. If you are currently staying with friends or family, do NOT include those individuals whose home you are currently staying in.

Initials	Age (Years)	Gender	Relationship
Person #1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	<input type="radio"/> Spouse/Partner <input type="radio"/> Other (Describe) <input type="radio"/> Child
Person #2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	<input type="radio"/> Spouse/Partner <input type="radio"/> Other (Describe) <input type="radio"/> Child
Person #3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	<input type="radio"/> Spouse/Partner <input type="radio"/> Other (Describe) <input type="radio"/> Child
Person #4	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female	<input type="radio"/> Spouse/Partner <input type="radio"/> Other (Describe) <input type="radio"/> Child

9. Have you ever served in the U.S. military? Yes No

10. Have you experienced any of the following, either now or in the past? (Check all that apply)

- Severe mental illness
- HIV/AIDS
- Chronic medical condition
- Chronic drug abuse
- Chronic alcohol abuse
- Physical disability
- Kicked out of the home BEFORE the age of 18
- Kicked out of home AFTER the age of 18
- Aged out of Foster Care
- Felony conviction
- Family Violence
- Involvement in Foster Care (as a parent)
- Involvement in Foster Care (as a youth)
- Left home voluntarily before the age of 18
- Recently discharged from an institution (such as a hospital or prison)
- Decline to Answer

11. Have you been to the hospital emergency room in the past six (6) months? Yes No Decline to answer **Skip to question #13**

12. How many times have you been to the emergency room in the past six (6) months? Number of times

13. Did family violence play a part in your current housing difficulties? Yes No Decline to answer

14. In the past 30 days, have you worked for pay... Full-time Part-time Day Labor Not at all

15. Do you currently receive any of the following benefits or services? (Check all that apply)

- Food Stamps (SNAP)
- SSI
- TANF
- Unemployment
- PeachCare
- Social Security
- SSI Disability
- Workman's Comp
- Veterans Benefits
- Medicaid
- DHS Independent Living Services (ILP)
- Mental Health or Addiction Services
- Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP)
- GeorgiaCares (for Seniors)
- Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8)
- Veterans Supportive Housing Voucher (VASH)

Are you... Male Female Transgender

Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino? Yes No

Are you... White Black/African American Asian Other or Multiracial American Indian

Those are all of the questions we have. Remember, all of your answers are completely confidential. They will not be shared with anyone. Thank you!!!!

2011 UNSHELTERED COUNT: DOUGHERTY COUNTY

OVERALL

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Age	435	13	73	39.20	12.981
Including this time, how many times have you been homeless in the past 3 years?	298	0	88	3.13	9.150
How many times have you been to the emergency room in the past 6 months?	230	0	20	1.67	2.253
Number of family members	435	0	4	.61	1.062
Number of children	435	0	4	.41	.858
Valid N (listwise)	185				

Housing Status

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Literally Unsheltered	30	6.9	6.9	6.9
Precariously Housed	63	14.5	14.5	21.4
Sheltered Homeless	59	13.6	13.6	34.9
Other Homeless	7	1.6	1.6	36.6
Housed	246	56.6	56.6	93.1
Undetermined	30	6.9	6.9	100.0
Total	435	100.0	100.0	

In what type of place did you stay on Sunday, January 23rd?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Own house or	109	25.1	25.3	25.3
Hotel/Motel	19	4.4	4.4	29.7
Street/under bridge	16	3.7	3.7	33.4
Prison	1	.2	.2	33.6
Camping	2	.5	.5	34.1
Friends/relatives	199	45.7	46.2	80.3
Abandoned building	11	2.5	2.6	82.8
Car	1	.2	.2	83.1
Med/Psych hospital	2	.5	.5	83.5
Transitional housing	11	2.5	2.6	86.1
Emergency/Domestic	48	11.0	11.1	97.2
Detox/Treatment	1	.2	.2	97.4
Other	11	2.5	2.6	100.0
Total	431	99.1	100.0	
Missing System	4	.9		
Total	435	100.0		

If you stayed in a hotel or motel, do you expect to be able to stay there for at least the next 2 weeks?

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Yes	146	33.6	73.4	73.4
No	36	8.3	18.1	91.5
Don't Know	17	3.9	8.5	100.0
Total	199	45.7	100.0	
Missing System	236	54.3		
Total	435	100.0		

If you stayed in a hotel or motel, is your stay being paid for by an agency, church or other service provider?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	10	2.3	6.3	6.3
	No	144	33.1	91.1	97.5
	Don't Know	4	.9	2.5	100.0
	Total	158	36.3	100.0	
Missing	System	277	63.7		
Total		435	100.0		

If you stayed in housing (your own, a relative's, or a friend's), is that your permanent place of stay?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	133	30.6	38.8	38.8
	No	191	43.9	55.7	94.5
	Don't Know	19	4.4	5.5	100.0
	Total	343	78.9	100.0	
Missing	System	92	21.1		
Total		435	100.0		

If you stayed in housing (your own, a relative's, or a friend's), is the house/apartment in safe/livable condition?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	289	66.4	86.8	86.8
	No	35	8.0	10.5	97.3
	Don't Know	9	2.1	2.7	100.0
	Total	333	76.6	100.0	
Missing	System	102	23.4		
Total		435	100.0		

If you stayed in housing (your own, a relative's, or a friend's), do you expect to be able to stay there for at least 2 weeks?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	251	57.7	74.9	74.9
	No	47	10.8	14.0	89.0
	Don't Know	37	8.5	11.0	100.0
	Total	335	77.0	100.0	
Missing	System	100	23.0		
Total		435	100.0		

If you stayed in housing (your own, a relative's, or a friend's), do you currently receive an type of rental subsidy or rental assistance from an agency?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	25	5.7	7.9	7.9
	No	289	66.4	91.5	99.4
	Don't Know	2	.5	.6	100.0
	Total	316	72.6	100.0	
Missing	System	119	27.4		
Total		435	100.0		

If you did receive a subsidy or rental assistance, is this temporary or permanent?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Permanent	10	2.3	14.9	14.9
	Temporary	50	11.5	74.6	89.6
	Don't Know	7	1.6	10.4	100.0
	Total	67	15.4	100.0	
Missing	System	368	84.6		
Total		435	100.0		

Do you consider yourself homeless at this time?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	229	52.6	62.6	62.6
	No	126	29.0	34.4	97.0
	Don't Know	11	2.5	3.0	100.0
	Total	366	84.1	100.0	
Missing	System	69	15.9		
Total		435	100.0		

In what county/city did you first become homeless?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Current city	280	64.4	88.9	88.9
	Neighbor city	10	2.3	3.2	92.1
	Elsewhere in GA	10	2.3	3.2	95.2
	Neighbor state	6	1.4	1.9	97.1
	Elsewhere in US	6	1.4	1.9	99.0
	Don't Know	3	.7	1.0	100.0
	Total	315	72.4	100.0	
Missing	System	120	27.6		
Total		435	100.0		

How long have you been homeless?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	<30	30	6.9	9.8	9.8
	30-90	47	10.8	15.3	25.1
	3-6 mths	23	5.3	7.5	32.6
	6mths-1yr	123	28.3	40.1	72.6
	>1yr	84	19.3	27.4	100.0
	Total	307	70.6	100.0	
Missing	System	128	29.4		
Total		435	100.0		

Did you have other household members staying with you on January 23, 2011?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	122	28.0	37.7	37.7
	No	202	46.4	62.3	100.0
	Total	324	74.5	100.0	
Missing	System	111	25.5		
Total		435	100.0		

Have you ever served in the U.S. military?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	40	9.2	9.7	9.7
	No	371	85.3	90.3	100.0
	Total	411	94.5	100.0	
Missing	System	24	5.5		
Total		435	100.0		

Have you experienced any of the following? Mental illness					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	409	94.0	94.0	94.0
	Yes	26	6.0	6.0	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? HIV/AIDS

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	431	99.1	99.1	99.1
	Yes	4	.9	.9	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Chronic medical condition

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	363	83.4	83.4	83.4
	Yes	72	16.6	16.6	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Chronic drug abuse

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	410	94.3	94.3	94.3
	Yes	25	5.7	5.7	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Chronic alcohol abuse

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	400	92.0	92.0	92.0
	Yes	35	8.0	8.0	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Physical disability

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	379	87.1	87.1	87.1
	Yes	56	12.9	12.9	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Kicked out of the home BEFORE age 18

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	377	86.7	86.7	86.7
	Yes	58	13.3	13.3	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Kicked out of the home AFTER age 18

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	389	89.4	89.4	89.4
	Yes	46	10.6	10.6	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Aged out of Foster Care

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	429	98.6	98.6	98.6
	Yes	6	1.4	1.4	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Felony conviction

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	389	89.4	89.4	89.4
	Yes	46	10.6	10.6	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Family violence

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	386	88.7	88.7	88.7
	Yes	49	11.3	11.3	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Involvement in Foster Care (as a parent)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	435	100.0	100.0	100.0

Have you experienced any of the following? Involvement in Foster Care (as a youth)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	425	97.7	97.7	97.7
	Yes	10	2.3	2.3	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Left home voluntarily before age 18

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	399	91.7	91.7	91.7
	Yes	36	8.3	8.3	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Recently discharged from an institution (such as a hospital or a prison)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	417	95.9	95.9	95.9
	Yes	18	4.1	4.1	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you experienced any of the following? Decline to answer

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	407	93.6	93.6	93.6
	Yes	28	6.4	6.4	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Have you been to the hospital emergency room in the past 6 months?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	160	36.8	38.0	38.0
	No	257	59.1	61.0	99.0
	refused	4	.9	1.0	100.0
	Total	421	96.8	100.0	
Missing	System	14	3.2		
Total		435	100.0		

Did family violence play a part in your current housing difficulties?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	50	11.5	12.4	12.4
	No	344	79.1	85.1	97.5
	refused	10	2.3	2.5	100.0
	Total	404	92.9	100.0	
Missing	System	31	7.1		
Total		435	100.0		

In the past 30 days, have you worked for pay...

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Full-time	51	11.7	11.7	18.9
	Part-time	36	8.3	8.3	27.1
	Not at all	276	63.4	63.4	90.6
Missing	Day labor	41	9.4	9.4	100.0
	System	31	7.1	7.1	7.1
Total		435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... Food Stamps (SNAP)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	163	37.5	37.5	37.5
	Yes	272	62.5	62.5	100.0
Total		435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... SSI

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	416	95.6	95.6	95.6
	Yes	19	4.4	4.4	100.0
Total		435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... TANF

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	417	95.9	95.9	95.9
	Yes	18	4.1	4.1	100.0
Total		435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... Unemployment benefits/services

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	403	92.6	92.6	92.6
	Yes	32	7.4	7.4	100.0
Total		435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... PeachCare

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	419	96.3	96.3	96.3
	Yes	16	3.7	3.7	100.0
Total		435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... Social security

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	420	96.6	96.6	96.6
	Yes	15	3.4	3.4	100.0
Total		435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... SSI disability benefits/services

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	395	90.8	90.8	90.8
	Yes	40	9.2	9.2	100.0
Total		435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... Workman's Comp

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	435	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you currently receive... Veteran's benefits

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	428	98.4	98.4	98.4
	Yes	7	1.6	1.6	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... Medicaid

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	358	82.3	82.3	82.3
	Yes	77	17.7	17.7	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... DHS Independent Living Services (ILP)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	434	99.8	99.8	99.8
	Yes	1	.2	.2	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... Mental health or addiction services

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	428	98.4	98.4	98.4
	Yes	7	1.6	1.6	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-Housing (HPRP)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	434	99.8	99.8	99.8
	Yes	1	.2	.2	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... GeorgiaCares (for Seniors)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	434	99.8	99.8	99.8
	Yes	1	.2	.2	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	432	99.3	99.3	99.3
	Yes	3	.7	.7	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Do you currently receive... Veterans Supportive Housing Voucher (VASH)

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Not checked	434	99.8	99.8	99.8
	Yes	1	.2	.2	100.0
	Total	435	100.0	100.0	

Respondent Gender

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Male	226	52.0	52.6	52.6
	Female	203	46.7	47.2	99.8
	Transgender	1	.2	.2	100.0
	Total	430	98.9	100.0	
Missing	System	5	1.1		
Total		435	100.0		

Respondent Hispanic?

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Yes	10	2.3	2.5	2.5
	No	392	90.1	97.5	100.0
	Total	402	92.4	100.0	
Missing	System	33	7.6		
Total		435	100.0		

Respondent Race

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	White	43	9.9	10.1	10.1
	Asian	2	.5	.5	10.5
	American indian	3	.7	.7	11.2
	Black	371	85.3	86.9	98.1
	Other/multi racial	8	1.8	1.9	100.0
	Total	427	98.2	100.0	
Missing	System	8	1.8		
Total		435	100.0		

2011 Count Results

Below are a few key points to keep in mind when reviewing the results from the 2011 Georgia Housing Status Count (aka Georgia Homeless Count):

1. **Not a comprehensive examination of housing** - This survey was a point in time count. This means that the questions on the survey asked about the respondents housing situation on a particular night (Sunday, January 23, 2011). Since the survey asked about a particular night, this limited the window available to survey individuals; since the longer we surveyed, the less likely transient respondents would be able to remember where they stayed.

A person could have been stably housed on Sunday, January 23, 2011 but then kicked out of their home the next day without notice. Therefore the Count serves as “snapshot” of the housing picture in the community and highlights areas needing further research or investigation.

2. **Voluntary participation** - All who participated in the Count did so voluntarily. How many people could be surveyed depended on the manpower available to the coordinator(s) as well as local support from agencies who service the target population. As well, respondents were not required to participate in the survey. So even if a community had outstanding volunteer support, they could not force the target population to fill out the survey.
3. **Results based on the responses given** - The responses are a reflection of the respondent’s perception of their housing situation. A respondent may fit the definition of a precariously housed or sheltered homeless person, however, if they perceive their situation as one of being stably housed, that perception was reflected in their responses.
4. **State definitions** – For the purposes of this survey, if a respondent stated that they would be in their current housing situation for longer than 2 weeks, they were categorized as “Stably Housed”. This means that a person who maybe facing an eviction in 3 weeks would have been categorized as “Stably Housed” even though the loss of their housing was eminent.

How to read 2011 Unsheltered Count - Dougherty County Tables:

- **Frequency** – the number of people who checked a particular answer
- **Percent** – the proportion of all of the surveys collected in the County (includes surveys where no answer was given for a particular question)
- **Valid Percent** – the proportion of all of the surveys that actually answered the question

Example: For the question “Do you consider yourself homeless at this time?”

-Frequency - 33 individual respondents answered “Yes”

-Percent – 33 individuals represents 27.7% of all of the surveys collected for Dougherty County

-Valid Percent – 33 individuals make up 35.9% of the surveys that had an answer for that question

If you have any thoughts, questions, concerns, or suggestions on how to improve the 2013 Count, please contact:

Lauren Miller, AICP

lmiller@swgrc.org

(229) 522-3552